

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10, page 68 as follows:

Cytokine specific primer pairs for the inducible MxA mRNA and the constitutively expressed G3PHD mRNA were designed by JSW and obtained from GynSys, the Woodlands, TX. The primer pairs are ~~complimentary complementary~~ to exons separated by at least one intron to avoid unrecognized amplification of cellular DNA and are designated by the relative position in the human mRNA {Mx: Mx: Plus strand primer GTGGAGCAGGACCTGGCCCTG (400-420) (SEQ_ID NO: 1); minus strand primer GAGCCTCTGTGGTGGCAATG (895-876) (SEQ_ID NO: 2); G3PDH: G3PDH: plus strand primer CAACGGATTGGTCGTATTGGGCCGC (84-108) (SEQ_ID NO: 3); minus strand primer TTACTCCTGGAGGCCATGTGGGCC (1068-1094) (SEQ_ID NO: 4)}. 5 µl of cDNA (representing DNA derived from 3-5 x 10⁶ cells) was amplified in 0.5 ml Gene-amp reaction tubes (Cetus Corp) in 200 µM final concentration of the four primers, 200 mM dNTPs, 0.5 U of Taq polymerase, and PCR buffer containing 2.5 mM MgCl₂, 50 mM KCL KCl, 10 Mm mM Tris-Cl pH 8.3, and 0.001% gelatin in a final volume of 25 ml. The reaction mixture was overlaid with a drop of light mineral oil, and PCR performed in a DNA thermal cycler (M.J. Research) for 30 cycles: 60 seconds denaturation at 94°C, 120 seconds annealing at

60°C, and 3 minutes extension at 72°C. The reaction product was visualized by electrophoresis of 20 µl of the reaction mixture at 80 V for 70 minutes in 2% agarose in 0.5x TBE buffer containing 0.5 mg/ml ethidium bromide. Specificity of the amplified product was validated by the predicted size following transfer to nitrocellulose, hybridization with 3'-digoxigenin-labeled (Genius(5, Boeringer Mannheim, Indianapolis, IN) internal oligonucleotide probes (MxA: ACCAGATGCCCTCTGGTGCTG, 405-425 (SEQ ID NO: 5); and GAPDH: CCGTCTCCAGAACATCATCCCTGCC, 687-663 (SEQ ID NO: 6), and chemiluminescent detection with an alkaline phosphatase-conjugated anti-digoxigenin antibody and [4-methoxy-4-(3-phosphatephenyl)spiro(1,2-dioxetane(3,2'-adamantane)] substrate (Genius (7; Boeringer Mannheim) and exposure for 15 and 30 minutes to X-ray film. The relative amount of MxA and GAPDH message amplified was determined by densitometric analysis of the bands on exposed film.